

COMMON MAMMALS

OF THE SURPRISE FIELD OFFICE

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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When traveling through your land, stop and look around. The area may appear barren mammals exist throughout the landscape. Each little burrow or trail is used by some small animal. The kangaroo rat, pygmy rabbit, and pocket mouse are just a few of these interesting animals along with more common species such as mule deer and pronghorn antelope.

The type of vegetation you see in this “high desert” reflects the amount of precipitation each location receives. This results in the valleys having 8-10 inches of precipitation with drought tolerant plants and the mountain tops with 12-25 inches of moisture having more lush vegetation. These mountains and valleys provide a variety of habitats which are occupied by many different species of wildlife. It is hoped that this mammal list will make your visit to the area more enjoyable.

This list was compiled with reference to Hall's "Mammals of Nevada" and Bert and Gossenheider's "A Field Guide to the Mammals" and Lloyd G. Ingles 1965 "Mammals of the Pacific States."



Large Ungulates

Mule deer – (*Odocoileus hemionus*). Shrub areas in mountains and foothills. Common .

Pronghorn antelope – (*Antilocapra americana*). Low sage and open rolling hill areas. Common.

Rocky Mountain Elk-(*Cervus elaphus nelsoni*). Shrub areas in mountains intermixed with juniper and aspen. Uncommon.

California Bighorn sheep-(*Ovis canadensis californiana*). Steep rocky areas of sagebrush habitat in rough terrain. Common in certain areas.



BATS

Pallid bat – (*Antrozous pallidus*). Uses valley areas. Roosts in buildings, caves.

Silver-haired bat – (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*). Forested areas. Roosts in trees and caves.

Hoary bat – (*Lasiurus cinereus*). Around lakes and meadows in forested areas.

Big Brown bat – (*Eptesicus fuscus*). Roosts in caves, crevices, and buildings. Very common. Entire district.

Western pipistrelle – (*Pipistrellus hesperus*). Rocky canyons, cliffs and lowland country.

Long-eared myotis – (*Myotis evotis*). Roosts in rocks, trees or buildings. Common.

California myotis – (*Myotis californicus*). Usually near water. Common in the lower desert areas below the tree zone. A colonial cave bat.

Small footed myotis – (*Myotis ciliolabrum*). Found below 6,500 feet, usually near water.

Yuma myotis - (*Myotis yumanensis*). Roosts in caves, mine tunnels and buildings. Chiefly uses open woods.

Little brown bat – (*Myotis lucifugus*). Roosts in caves, buildings and hollow trees. Often found near water. Very common in most areas.

Spotted bat – (*Euderma maculatum*). Possible existence in the district. Very rare. Uses cliffy areas near water.

Mexican free-tailed bat – (*Tadarida brasilienses*). Caves and buildings. (Migratory)



SMALL RODENTS

California ground squirrel – (*Spermophilus beecheyi*). Common along the foothills of the Warner Mountains.

Townsend's ground squirrel – (*Spermophilus townsendii*). Arid valleys and open sagebrush. Cyclic but common.

Belding (Oregon) ground squirrel – (*Spermophilus beldingi*). Meadow and mountains. Cyclic but common.

Antelope ground squirrel – (*Ammospermophilus leucurus*).

Widespread. Common

Golden manteled ground squirrel – (*Spermophilus lateralis*). Found at higher elevations. Open timber where rocks or fallen logs occur. Common.

Least chipmonk – (*Eutamias minimus*). In sagebrush, juniper or brushy areas. Also found in foothills.

Yellow pine chipmonk – (*Tamias amoenus*). Conifer trees and rocky brush areas. Common.



MICE, RATS, RODENTS

Canyon mouse – (*Peromyscus crinitus*). Stony places among rocks. Openings of canyons from mountains.

Deer mouse – (*Peromyscus maniculatus*). Everywhere. Most common mammal in the district.

Great Basin pocket mouse – (*Perognathus parvus*). Inhabits rocky soil.

House mouse – (*Mus musculus*). Around communities and dwellings.

Little pocket mouse – (*Perognathus longimembris*). Dry areas. Doesn't need water. Below juniper belt.

Northern grasshopper mouse – (*Onychomys leucogaster*). Sandy soiled shrub association.

Pinyon mouse – (*Peromyscus truei*). Rocky areas among juniper trees.



- Western harvest mouse – (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*). Grassy areas near water.
- Western jumping mouse – (*Zapus princeps*). Pine forests, grassy meadows and aspen thickets.
- Bushy tailed wood rat – (*Neotoma cinerea*). Near forested areas and juniper woodlands.
- Chisel toothed kangaroo rat – (*Dipodomys microps*). Sagebrush, shadscale, greasewood communities.
- Dark kangaroo rat – (*Microdipodops megacephalus*). Sandy, gravelly soils on the eastern part of the district.
- Ord's kangaroo rat – (*Dipodomys ordii*). Most common kangaroo rats located in the lower elevations.
- Badger – (*Taxidea taxus*). Widespread. Common.
- Beaver – (*Castor canadensis*). Most perennial streams which have aspen or willows. Signs common in some areas.
- Long-tailed weasel – (*Mustela frenata*). In higher mountains, common but elusive.
- Porcupine – (*Erethizon dorsatum*). Widespread from sagebrush to forests; likes meadows, streams or succulent areas as part of their habitat. Found in isolated areas.
- Raccoon – (*Procyon lotor*). Areas near water and humans. Common.
- Spotted skunk – (*Spilogale putorius*). Brushy, rocky areas. Common.
- Striped skunk – (*Mephitis mephitis*). Usually found near water. Common.
- Yellow-bellied marmot – (*Marmota flaviventris*). Rocky areas and valleys. Found in isolated areas.



CARNIVORES/LARGE PREDATORS

Black bear – (*Ursus americanus*). Omnivores- Occasional bears have been observed in the Warner Mountains.

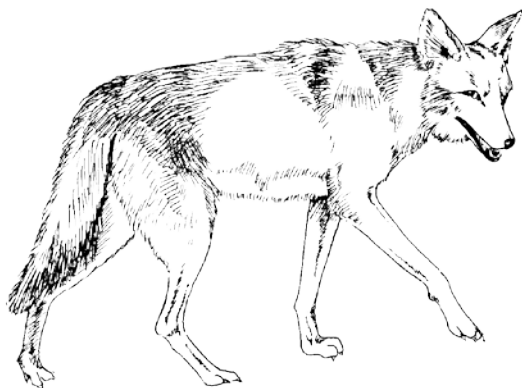
Bobcat – (*Lynx rufus*). Rimrock country and brush thickets. Secretive but common.

Mountain lion (*Felis concolor*). Rocky mountain areas, usually in deer habitat. Very secretive but common.

Coyote – (*Canis latrans*). All areas and very common.

Red fox – (*Vulpes vulpes*). High mountain ranges. Isolated spottings in Surprise Valley. Uncommon.

Gray fox – (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*). Brushy and woody foothills. Uncommon with isolated spottings.





RABBITS & HARES

Pygmy rabbit – (*Brachylagus idahoensis*). Common in certain areas, mainly found in areas of big sagebrush with deep loamy soils.

Mountain cottontail – (*Sylvilagus nuttalli*). Near streams and meadows with brush cover.

Black-tailed jackrabbit – (*Lepus californicus*). Throughout the district. Very common.

MOLES, VOLES & SHREWS

Sagebrush vole – (*Lemmiscus curtatus*). Among sagebrush of uniform height and well sheltered. Common.

Merriam shrew – (*Sorex merriami*). High desert areas of Modoc and Washoe Counties. (Rare)

